

10/22/03

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of providing an insurance product via a computing network, comprising the steps of,
5 issuing an insurance product to a subscriber, and allowing the subscriber to access the computing system through a network, so as to vary at least one term of the issued insurance product.
2. A method in accordance with claim 1, comprising the
10 further step of issuing the insurance product to the subscriber over the network.
3. A method in accordance with claim 2, comprising the further step of, before issuing the insurance product to the subscriber, obtaining information from the subscriber,
15 the information being applied to calculate the cost of the insurance product.
4. A method in accordance with claim 3, comprising the further step of applying the information obtained from the subscriber to locate a value in one of a table and a
20 multi-dimensional array of data, the value being the purchase cost of the insurance product.
5. A method in accordance with claim 4, comprising the further step of utilising a first and a second table, the first table being utilised to calculate the cost to the
25 subscriber when the subscriber is issued with the insurance product, and the second table being utilised to calculate the cost to the subscriber when the subscriber varies the at least one term of the insurance product.
6. A method in accordance with claim 3, comprising the
30 further step of verifying the identity of the subscriber before obtaining information from the subscriber.
7. A method in accordance with claim 1, comprising the further step of, after issuing the insurance product to

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the subscriber, obtaining claim information relating to a claim for compensation made by the subscriber, the claim information being applied to determine whether the subscriber is entitled to receive compensation for the claim.

8. A method in accordance with claim 7, comprising the further step of comparing the claim information to a predetermined rule set, and providing appropriate compensation to the subscriber if the claim information complies with the predetermined rule set.

9. A method in accordance with claim 7, comprising the further step of communicating the claim information to an insurance underwriter for further processing.

10. A method in accordance with claim 1 wherein the at least one term of the insurance product is the time period for which the insurance product is valid.

11. A method in accordance with claim 1, wherein the at least one term of the insurance product is the intended destination of the subscriber.

12. A method in accordance with claim 1, wherein the at least one term of the insurance product is the total coverage value of the insurance policy.

13. A method in accordance with claim 1, wherein the insurance product is travel insurance.

14. A system for providing an insurance product, comprising, a client system capable of displaying information regarding a range of insurance products, the client system including appropriate means to send a subscriber request to a server system, an issuing component of the server system capable of receiving the subscriber request and issuing an insurance product to the subscriber, characterised in that, in response to a further subscriber request sent from the client system,

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the issuing component of the server system allows the subscriber to vary at least one term of the issued insurance product.

- 3- 15. A system in accordance with claim 14, wherein the
5 client system includes an interface that prompts information from the subscriber, the client system being sent to the server system, and the information being applied by the server system to calculate the cost of the insurance product.
- 14- 16. A system in accordance with claim 15, further
comprising a database that includes at least one table of data, wherein the information obtained from the subscriber is utilised to locate a value in the at least one table of data, the value being the purchase cost of the insurance
15 product.
- 5- 17. A system in accordance with claim 16, wherein the
database includes a first and a second table, the first table being utilised to calculate the cost to the subscriber when the subscriber is issued with the
20 insurance product, and the second table being utilised to calculate the cost to the subscriber when the subscriber varies the at least one term in the insurance product.
- 6- 18. A system in accordance with claim 17, comprising
authenticating means to authenticate the subscriber before
25 obtaining information from the subscriber.
- 7- 19. A system in accordance with claim 18, wherein the
client system further includes a claims interface to prompt a subscriber to provide claim information, the claim information being compared with a predetermined rule
30 set contained within the database, to determine whether the subscriber is entitled to receive compensation for the claim.

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- 9- 20. A system in accordance with claim 19, wherein the server system includes an interface which communicates the claim information to an insurance underwriter for further processing.
- 50- 21. A system in accordance with claim 14 wherein the at least one term of the insurance product is the time period for which the insurance product is valid.
- 11- 22. A system in accordance with claim 14, wherein the at least one term of the insurance product is the intended destination of the subscriber.
- 10 23. A system in accordance with claim 14, wherein the at least one term of the insurance product is the total coverage value of the insurance policy.
- 12- 24. A system in accordance with claim 14, wherein the insurance product is travel insurance.
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